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Remarks

A. Pending Claims

Claims 1, 3-4, 7, 10, 12-18, 21-24, 26-27, 37, and 43 have been subjected to a restriction and/or election requirement. Claims 3-4, 7, 10, 12-18, 23-24, 27, and 37 are withdrawn. Claims 1, 21-22, 26, and 43 are pending in the application.

B. Election/Restriction

Applicant hereby elects "Species 5: Collars, shown in figs. 28-29, and 34-35" corresponding to claims 21-22 without traverse, with claims 1, 26, and 43 held generic. Applicant has withdrawn claims 3-4, 7, 10, 12-18, 23-24, 27, and 37. Applicant reserves the right to file additional applications directed to the non-elected subject matter. Applicant respectfully requests that any withdrawn claims be considered for rejoinder at such time that a generic claim is in condition for allowance.

C. Additional Comments

Applicant submits that all claims are in condition for allowance. Favorable reconsideration is respectfully requested.

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Applicant respectfully requests a five month extension of time. Applicant has submitted a Fee Authorization Form for fees associated with a five month extension of time. If any further extension of time is required, Applicant hereby respectfully requests such extension of time. If any further fees are required or have been overpaid, please appropriately charge or credit those fees to MEYERTONS, HOOD, KIVLIN, KOWERT & GOETZEL Deposit Account Number 50-1505/5838-06602/FBM.

Respectfully submitted,

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Patent Agent for Applicant

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Date: 6 /3 /08